

Boat operators are the individuals captaining the vessel (6.2 minutes).

Telephone interviews with 50 party boat operators from Alabama through Texas (6.2 minutes).

Telephone interviews with 50 dive shop or diving guide service providers from Alabama through Texas (2 minutes).

Estimated reporting and recordkeeping "cost" burden: This is a one time survey with no cost burden on the respondents to provide this collection of information.

Comments: Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act requires each agency " * * * to provide notice * * * and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information * * *." Agencies must specifically solicit comments to: (a) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful, (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, (c) enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (d) minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Send your comments directly to the offices listed under the addresses section of this notice. The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments by August 27, 1998.

MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Jo Ann Lauterbach, (202) 208-7744.

Dated: June 17, 1998.

E. P. Danenberger,

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.
[FR Doc. 98-20048 Filed 7-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submission for Office of Management and Budget Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of a currently approved information

collection (OMB Control Number 1010-0018).

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), the Department of the Interior has submitted the collection of information discussed below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. The Act provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: Submit written comments by August 27, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments and suggestions directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (1010-0018), 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503. Send a copy of your comments to the Minerals Management Service, Attention: Rules Processing Team, Mail Stop 4024, 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexis London, Engineering and Operations Division, Minerals Management Service, telephone (703) 787-1600. You may obtain copies of the supporting statement and collection of information by contacting MMS's Information Collection Clearance Officer at (202) 208-7744.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title and Form Number: Form MMS-127, Request for Maximum Efficient Rate (MER).

Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*), as amended, requires the Secretary of the Interior to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the OCS; make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resource development with protection of the human, marine, and coastal environment; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on the resources offshore; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition. To carry out these responsibilities, MMS has issued regulations at 30 CFR part 250. Subpart K, Oil and Gas Production Rates, requires respondents to complete Form MMS-127 to submit reservoir data on production.

The MMS uses the information collected by Form MMS-127 to analyze and evaluate reservoir characteristics and parameters and to classify the reservoir as sensitive. The MMS also uses the information for reservoir development studies, well production

reviews, production allocation checks, and reserves calculations for bonding and leasing activities. The MMS will protect proprietary information submitted on Form MMS-127 under 30 CFR 250.118. Data and information to be made available to the public. No items of a sensitive nature are collected. The requirement to respond is mandatory.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: There are approximately 130 Federal OCS oil and gas or sulphur lessees.

Frequency: Annual or on occasion.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: There are 900 burden hours currently approved for this collection. The reporting burden is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing the instructions, gathering and maintaining the data, and completing and reviewing the form. There are no recordkeeping requirements.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Cost" Burden: None.

Comments: Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act requires each agency " * * * to provide notice * * * and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information * * *." Agencies must specifically solicit comments to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful, (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, (c) enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (d) minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Send your comments directly to the offices listed under the addresses section of this notice. The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments by August 27, 1998.

MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Jo Ann Lauterbach, (202) 208-7744.

Dated: July 1, 1998.

Williams S. Cook,

Acting Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.

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